

# MARINE CORPS WARFIGHTING LABORATORY

The purpose of the **Intra Platoon Radio (IPR)** is to provide secure communications between the Platoon Commander and Squad Leaders.

**Background:** Operational units expanded the employment of the Intra Squad Radio (ISR) as a stopgap measure to provide non-secure communications between the platoon commander and squad leaders. However, during experimentation and assessments in pre-deployment training, operating units identified deficiencies in using a “non-secure” ISR as the platoon tactical radio.

During Urban Warrior, Project Metropolis and Tactical Warrior experimentation the requirement for a dependable, secure communication means between platoon commander and squad leaders was repeatedly identified. The requirement is for a secure (Type 1 encrypted) handheld VHF radio that has the capability to integrate with non-secure ISR and secure Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS). The possibility of UHF access in the same radio would provide a potential added capability to coordinate directly with aircraft. Many current radios could potentially meet the IPR requirement; however, the THALES Multi Band Inter/Intra Team Radio (MBITR) (AN/PRC-148) is already being fielded to reconnaissance units, and was a logical choice since adoption would constitute an expansion of a current acquisition system rather than a new start. Initial estimate of the expanded requirement was 1664 radios at an estimated cost of \$9.5 million.

MCWL forwarded an assessment report to CG MCCDC recommending procurement and distribution of (21) AN/PRC-148 radios to all infantry companies. CG MCCDC approved an increase of 1,422 AN/PRC-148 radios to the Tactical Handheld Radio (THR) program which provided 21 AN/PRC-148 radios for use as a platoon tactical radio net.

## INTRA PLATOON RADIO

### *fact sheet*



**Description:** The warfighting lab will continue to define IPR requirements through Project Metropolis and Tactical Warrior experimentation. Limited technical assessments will also be conducted to define the requirements/options for integration with the ISR.

**Deliverable Product(s):** Assessment reports and requirement documentation.

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